

RUNCORN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For year ending 31st December, 1969



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RUNCORN

ANNUAL REPORT

1969

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Officials of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. F. SEYMOUR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned February, 1970).

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Middlewich, Northwich and Winsford Urban and Northwich and Runcorn Rural District Councils and Divisional Medical Officer to the Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions.

Public Health Inspectors

Chief: A. DUCKWORTH, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H., Smoke Inspector's Diploma.

Deputy Chief: R. L. WILSON, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H., Smoke Inspector's Diploma.

Additional: A. C. BARKER, Diploma P.H.I., Education Board.

Technical Assistant: J. W. WHITMARSH, (from March, 1969).

Clerical Assistant: Mrs. M. M. FINDLOW.

Refuse Superintendent: I. P. GALBRAITH, (from June, 1969).

Members of the Urban District Council of Runcorn

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor G. E. POVEY

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor C. DAVIES

Councillor Miss M. A. BLACK

„ T. CLARE
(Chairman of the Public Health Committee)
„ W. DAVIES
„ G. H. DUTTON
„ K. J. EBBRELL
„ O. FINDLOW
„ W. T. A. FOSTER
„ G. R. GRAY
„ P. H. HARDLEY
„ C. J. HELSBY, J.P.
„ S. J. HIND
„ C. S. HOWARD
„ A. T. JAMESON
„ J. LOOKER
„ A. PARR
„ P. J. POLLARD, J.P.
„ Miss M. J. PREECE
„ S. G. ROSE
„ Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK
„ C. K. SUMNER
„ S. WILLIAMS
„ R. C. WOODS

Officers:

Clerk, Solicitor and Chief Executive Officer: T. J. LEWIS

Engineer and Surveyor: K. P. LEAKE, C.Eng., M.I.C.E., F.I.Mun.E.,

Treasurer: N. GREEN

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
List of Staff	1
List of Councillors	2
Introduction	5

SECTION A

1	Comparative General Statistics—1968/69	6
2	Vital Statistics	6
3	Infant Mortality	7
4	Deaths	7
5	Causes of Death during the year 1969....	7
6	Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases, 1969	8

SECTION B

1	Water	9
2	Drainage and Sewerage	10
3	Relief and Flooding	10
4	Public Cleansing	10
5	Civic Amenities Act, 1967	11
6	Summary of Inspections and Visits	12
7	Clean Air Acts, 1956 & 1968	13
	(a) Dark Smoke	13
	(b) New Furnaces	13
	(c) Grit and Dust	14
	(d) Height of Chimneys	14
	(e) Smoke Control Areas	14
	The Investigation of Air Pollution	15
8	Noise	18
9	New Development	18
10	Swimming Baths	18
11	Vermin and Insect Pests	19
12	Rodent Control	19

SECTION C

HOUSING:	<i>Page</i>
1 Housing	20
2 Slum Clearance	20
3 Housing Waiting List	21
4 Improvement of Houses	21

SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:

1	(a) Milk Supply	22
	(b) Milk Sampling	22
	(c) Raw Milk Supplies	22
2	Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 and 1965	22
3	Ice Cream Sampling	22

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

1	(a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, Sections 16 and 19	23
	(b) Inspection of Food Premises	23
	(c) Deep Frozen Chickens	24
	(d) Unsound Food.... ..	24
	(e) Poultry Inspection	24
2	Adulteration of Food	25

SECTION E

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963:

1	General	26
2	Accidents	26
ANNEX to Annual Report—Administration of Factories Act, 1961		27
APPENDIX “A”—Annual Report 1969 Divisional Medical Officer of Health (Runcorn Division)		29

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RUNCORN

Tel: Runcorn 2661

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Runcorn.

July, 1970.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Runcorn

Dear Mr. Chairman & Councillors,

On behalf of Dr. Seymour your Medical Officer of Health for 1969 I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for that year.

For the information of members I enclose a copy of the Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee.

I am sure Dr. Seymour would wish me to express his appreciation to Mr. Duckworth and the Council's Chief Officers for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. E. O'MALLEY,
Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A—General and Vital Statistics

1 COMPARATIVE GENERAL STATISTICS—1968/69

	<i>Year</i>	
	1968	1969
Population (estimated mid-year)	30,890	31,560
Area (Acres of District)	8,036	8,036
Rateable Value	£1,589,645	£1,671,953
Product of Penny Rate (estimated)	£6,556	£7,150
Estimated number of inhabited dwellings	10,492	10,822

2 VITAL STATISTICS

				<i>Comparable Figures England & Wales</i>
<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Legitimate	250	277	527	
Illegitimate	14	22	36	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	264	299	563	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.8			16.3
*Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 0.99)	17.6			16.3
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births	6.0			8.0
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
STILL BIRTHS	4	6	10	
LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	268	305	573	
Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still-Births		17		13

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1

3 INFANT MORTALITY

		<i>Comparable Figures England & Wales</i>
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	14	18
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) per 1,000 total live births	9	12
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1,000 total live births....	9	10
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	26	23
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	Nil	Nil

4 DEATHS

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>		
All causes	192	168	360		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.4	11.9			
*Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.25)	14.3	11.9			

**Note:* The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

5 TOTAL DEATHS 1969

<i>Causes of deaths</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	18	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2

Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	....	....	....	....	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	6	6
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus	....	....	....	....	2	3
Anaemias	....	....	....	....	1	—
Other diseases of Nervous System, etc.	....	....	....	....	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	2	4
Hypertensive Disease	....	....	....	....	6	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	64	42
Other forms of Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	3	7
Cerebrovascular Disease	....	....	....	....	23	31
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	....	....	....	....	6	8
Influenza	....	....	....	....	6	4
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	7	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema	....	....	....	....	21	10
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	....	....	....	....	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	....	....	....	....	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	....	....	....	....	—	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	....	....	....	....	1	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	....	....	....	....	1	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	....	....	....	....	—	3
Congenital Anomalies	....	....	....	....	1	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	....	....	....	....	1	—
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	....	....	....	....	3	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....	....	2	1
All other Accidents	....	....	....	....	2	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	....	....	....	....	1	2
All other External Causes	....	....	....	....	1	—
Totals	....	....	....	....	192	168

Infectious and Other Diseases—Statistics

6 INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1969

	1969	1968
Measles	36	374
Scarlet Fever	20	51
Whooping Cough	4	5
Tuberculosis	6	2
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—
Dysentery	1	—
Infective Hepatitis	11	—

SECTION B

Sanitary Circumstances

1 *Water Supply*

Supplied by Runcorn and District Water Board, Town Hall, Runcorn. Telephone No.: Runcorn 2261.

The water supply consists of water from Lake Vyrnwy and the River Dee aqueducts of Liverpool Corporation with the exception of Moore, Sutton Weaver and a certain number of houses and farms which are supplied by Warrington Corporation and a number of farms which have a private supply.

<i>No. of Samples of Water taken during the year for Bacteriological examination</i>						Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Vyrnwy	....	....	....	....	....	32	6
Dee	....	....	....	....	....	30	2

Follow up samples of the 2 unsatisfactory Dee water samples were found to be satisfactory.

As a result of several unsatisfactory Vyrnwy water samples a chlorination plant was installed at the point where the Water Board's main joined the main Vyrnwy trunk main.

						<i>Vyrnwy Water</i>	<i>Dee Water</i>
<i>Quantity</i>	....	....	....	....	....	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
<i>Quality</i>	....	....	....	....	....	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
<i>Plumbo-Solvent Action</i>			....	....		None	None
<i>*Lead Determination after 16 hr.</i>							
<i>contact period</i>	....	....	....	....		Less than 0.1 parts per million	Less than 0.1 parts per million
<i>P.H. Value</i>	....	....	....	....	....	7.6	7.5
<i>No. of dwelling houses via mains to taps</i>						10,822	
<i>Dwellings served by stand pipes</i>			....			Nil	Nil

*Samples of water were taken from areas where there are lead feed-pipes. These samples were taken to ascertain the concentration of lead in the water supply after a period of contact with the lead pipe. The limit of lead concentration recommended by the World Health Organisation after 16 hours contact is 0.3 parts per million.

2 Drainage and Sewerage

Comments have been made in past years about the unsatisfactory discharge of untreated sewage into the River Mersey and the chance to re-design the sewerage system of the old parts of the town in conjunction with the lay-out of the sewerage system for the New Town. Some progress has been made, and the length of trunk sewer from the existing Highfield Works to the new sewerage works at Astmoor has been laid. The Council has agreed to pay a contribution for a larger sewer in order that their future requirements can be met. The new sewage works was opened in 1969 and the foul sewage of the New Town housing and industrial estates is treated thereat and plans are being made for the Council's own system to be connected to it at an early date.

3 Relief of Flooding in Moughland Lane, Oxford Road and Hinton Road

A scheme has been prepared by Consultants and approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government for the relief of flooding which occurs in storm conditions in the area of Moughland Lane, Oxford Road and Hinton Road. Work is expected to commence early in 1970 and has a 9 month contract period.

4 Public Cleansing

Difficulties which had been experienced in maintaining a regular weekly refuse collection due to labour troubles were resolved in June, 1969, and thereafter generally except for occasions of severe labour difficulties a weekly collection service was maintained.

The sack system of storage and collection in all the new houses of the Development Corporation is working satisfactorily and should prove to be the best system for the types of housing developments being planned.

All plans for future housing developments, schools, factories, shopping centre are examined before approval so that the methods of collection can be planned to fall in line with the Council's methods. The economic routing to access points, road layouts, types of storage accommodation are scrutinised to ensure that these are satisfactory and recommendations made to the Development Corporation Architects.

With the increase in the number of smoke control areas and in heating appliances away from solid fuel the problem of extra refuse to be disposed of from households increases yearly. Refuse is becoming bulkier and lighter and in the very near future refuse containers will need to be bigger. Various experiments with large types sack and containers are being carried out in anticipation of future requirements.

The innovation of 6 and 7 persons dwellings at Halton Lodge and Halton Brook Phase III necessitated a review of the Council's conditions of approval of refuse storage accommodation having regard to the Ministry Working Party on Refuse Collection prediction that the refuse output of the national average household of 3 persons would reach 4 to 5 cubic feet between 1977-82. On this basis a refuse cupboard of sufficient size to hold three $4\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. $18\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter refuse sacks is required for these larger dwellings.

Tipping is still taking place at the Castle Rise Tip and presents a difficult problem in trying to reduce nuisance from wind blown paper and adequate covering material of the refuse which takes place near to adjoining houses. Regular spraying with insecticides is carried out in summer in order to reduce any fly nuisance. It is expected that the Castle Rise Tip will be filled by the end of 1970 when tipping will be transferred to the Western Road Quarry.

The long term refuse disposal arrangements become more pressing and with land for tipping in the area becoming scarcer and the planning authorities imposing very strict conditions where permission is given for tipping the provision of an incinerator on a regional basis appears to be the only practicable solution.

5 Civic Amenities Act, 1967

The Castle Rise Refuse Tip has been designated under the Civic Amenities Act, 1957 as the place where residents may bring refuse for disposal free.

The Tip is open Monday to Friday, 8.30 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m.

This service is well used and appreciated by the public and has had the effect of reducing the indiscriminate dumping on open sites.

6 Inspections and Visits

Unsound Food	88
Bakeries	9
Cafes, canteens and restaurants	33
Food factories	26
Licensed premises	20
Market stalls	33
Food shops	105
Food vehicles	10
Domestic water samples	8
Swimming bath water samples	10
Ice cream and lollie samples	28
Animal boarding establishments	1
Caravans	13
Complaints	179
Demolition of property	17
Drainage	384
Factories using mechanical power	7
Building operations and works of engineering	
construction	15
Hairdressers	3
House inspections and revisits	260
Improvement grants	17
Rent Act	2
Infectious disease investigations	63
Infectious disease surveillance	31
Interviews	396
Miscellaneous	637
Noise abatement	27
Nuisance abatement	482
Offices and shops	69
Pet shops	5
Petroleum Acts	47
Places of public entertainment	8
Public conveniences	36
Smoke nuisance abatement	43
Smoke control areas	1407
Air pollution survey	152
Swimming baths	1
Refuse collection and disposal	477
Riding establishments	1
Rodent control	63
Vacant sites	13
Vermin and insect pests	62
Water supply	22
Administration	240
Work study	26
	<hr/>
	5576
	<hr/>

7 Clean Air Acts, 1956 and 1968

(a) PROHIBITION OF DARK SMOKE FROM CHIMNEYS

On two occasions it was necessary to bring to the notice of a firm occupying two premises of worsening emissions of dark smoke from coal-fired boilers at the premises. The firm's proposals to move all operations to one premises and install new oil-fired boilers were delayed by refusal of planning permission for the proposed chimney height of 100 feet.

During October, observations of dark smoke drifting over Weston Point from M.S.C. Gowry while dredging in the Manchester Ship Canal revealed emissions of dark smoke for periods greater than the generous 20 minutes in the aggregate in any period of 1 hour permitted by The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958. The engine room crew were reprimanded by the owners, who stated that the craft was coming towards the end of its active life and should be replaced in a year or two.

Section 1 of the 1968 Act, which prohibits dark smoke from burning any matter in the open, came into force on 1st October. The provisions were brought to the notice of a local demolition contractor who had caused dark smoke in the past by burning rubbish on demolition sites, and a local scrap metal dealer who had caused dark smoke by burning motor vehicle upholstery.

(b) REQUIREMENT THAT NEW FURNACES SHALL BE SO FAR AS PRACTICABLE SMOKELESS

Twenty notifications of proposal to install new furnaces were received. All were designed to operate continuously without emitting smoke and were operating satisfactorily when installed except for one incinerator situated in a smoke control area which had no afterburner, refractory lining or primary ignition. Smoke from the incinerator was caused by burning unsuitable waste material, and the matter was brought to the notice of the factory occupier concerned. This incident emphasizes the necessity for the type and size of any incinerator to be chosen according to the type and volume per day of waste to be destroyed, and for advantage to be taken of the manufacturer's test burning service. The situation must be closely watched if forests of cheap, sheet steel incinerators each contributing its share of smoke, fly ash and odours are to be prevented from springing up on the new industrial estates.

(c) REQUIREMENTS THAT GRIT AND DUST FROM FURNACES SHALL BE MINIMISED

Investigations into a grit nuisance from a vertical cross-tube boiler coal-fired by a hopper model 3-speed underfeed stoker continued from the previous year. The provision of over-fire air jets recommended by the NCB's Technical Services Department to deflect the grit and aid its combustion by creating the necessary turbulence above the fire-bed produced little reduction in grit emission. Modification of the air ports in the retort are to be carried out in an attempt to achieve a uniform passage of air through the fuel. It is doubtful whether this will improve the situation and the provision of a simple grit arrester or use of an alternative fuel will be necessary as a last resort.

(d) HEIGHT OF CHIMNEYS

Four applications for approval of the height of chimneys were received, one being disapproved and a subsequent amended application approved. A chimney height of 100 feet based on the use of heavy fuel oil and approved the previous year was refused planning permission. A revised, approved chimney height of 53 feet achieved by the proposed use of gas oil at greater cost per gallon to the applicant subsequently received planning permission. The initial refusal and the applicant's search for an alternative fuel of low sulphur content comparable in cost with heavy fuel oil will result in perpetuating the smoke emissions from the two premises referred to earlier for a further 18 months until late next year when the new boiler installation should be commissioned.

(e) SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The No. 4 Area containing 840 houses in the York Street and Picton Avenue areas, became operative on 1st October. It is interesting to note that the percentage of houses already equipped to burn a smokeless fuel increased by 6 over the No. 3 Area to 26%. An increasing trend towards gas fires has also been observed in old and sub-standard houses in the town. Of the 789 fireplaces converted in private houses in No. 4 Area, 59.5% were to gas, 31% to solid fuel and 9.5% to electricity. This represents a 4.3% reduction in solid fuel conversions compared with No. 3 Area, reflected in an increase in electrical appliances since the Ministry ban on electric fires was lifted on 29th August, 1968.

Approximately 4,528, i.e. 32%, of the Urban District's 10,822 domestic premises are smoke controlled compared with 45% in the North Western "black areas" and 53% of England's total "black areas". These figures, together with the high percentage of householders already burning smokeless fuels, the satisfaction and appreciation of householders having carried out conversions in recent areas, and the eagerness of householders not in areas to carry out grant-aided conversions, emphasize the need to maintain the present continuity of new areas.

Three householders in existing areas were warned during the year about burning coal, twenty less than the previous year, and further action was not found necessary. The decrease may be attributed to strict vigilance by the Department, the co-operation of local merchants and the prohibition of the sale or delivery of coal in smoke control areas by the Clean Air Act, 1968.

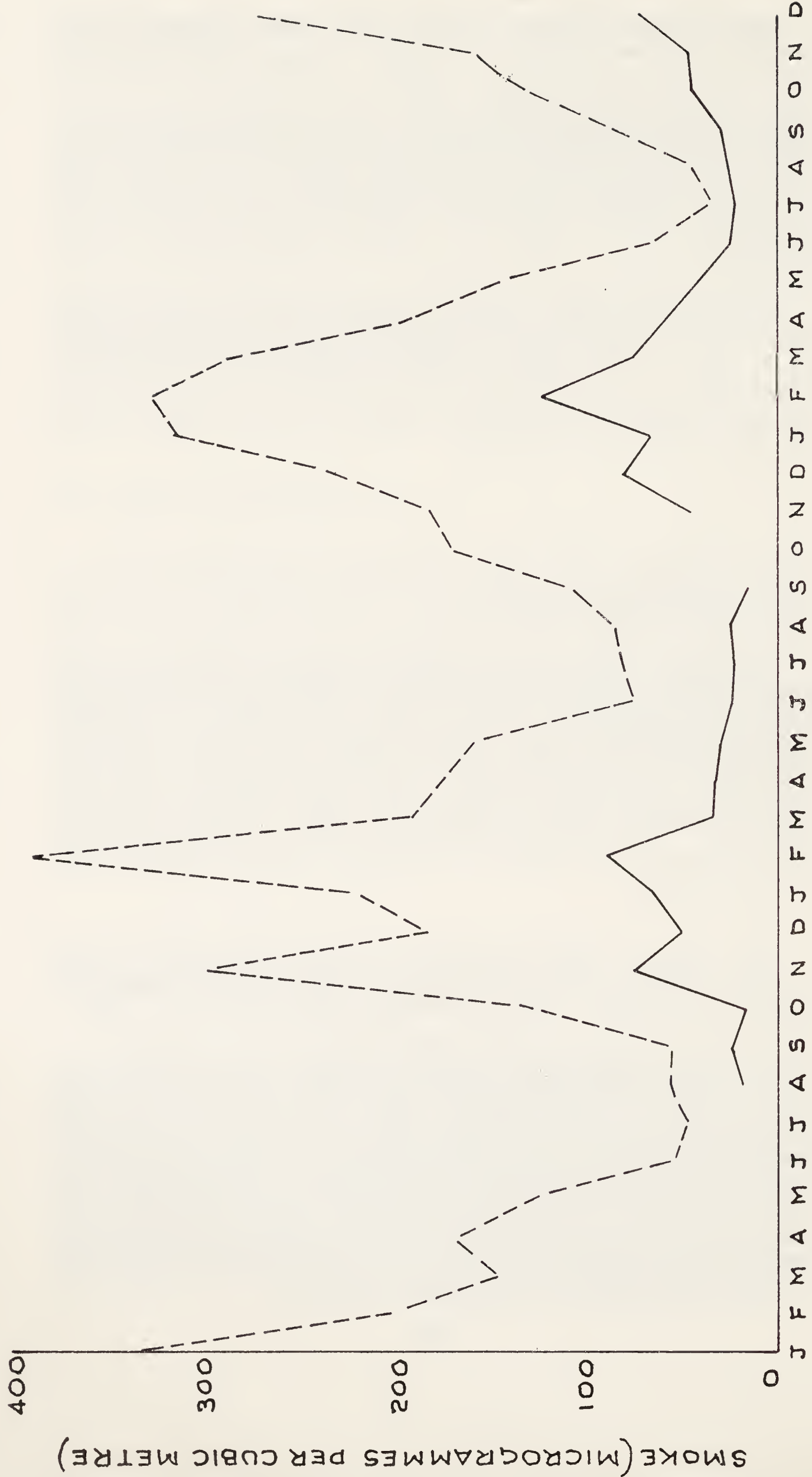
The Investigation of Air Pollution

The survey of smoke and sulphur dioxide was continued at the five monitoring stations operated by the Department at the Public Library, the Town Hall, Halton, Norton and Weston. The higher readings during the colder weather confirm the estimate that 85% of the smoke in Great Britain comes from house chimneys, and mainly during the winter when fogs are most likely. Pollution from road traffic and the fuel demands of industry remain constant throughout the year and do not contribute to the higher readings obtained during the winter months.

The graph on page 16 illustrates the three to four fold increase in smoke pollution at the Public Library compared with Rocksavage Grange (to September, 1968) and Weston (from November, 1968).

*The graph on page 17 relating to sulphur dioxide pollution at these two sites is more erratic due to the effect of wind direction and emissions from industrial chimneys within, and outside of, the Urban District, but still shows the increase during the winter months due to domestic solid fuel consumption and the higher concentrations at the Public Library. It is interesting to note that during the production of Sunbrite, the sulphur content of the coal used is reduced by 14% resulting in a corresponding reduction in sulphur dioxide emission from the use of this smokeless fuel compared with coal.

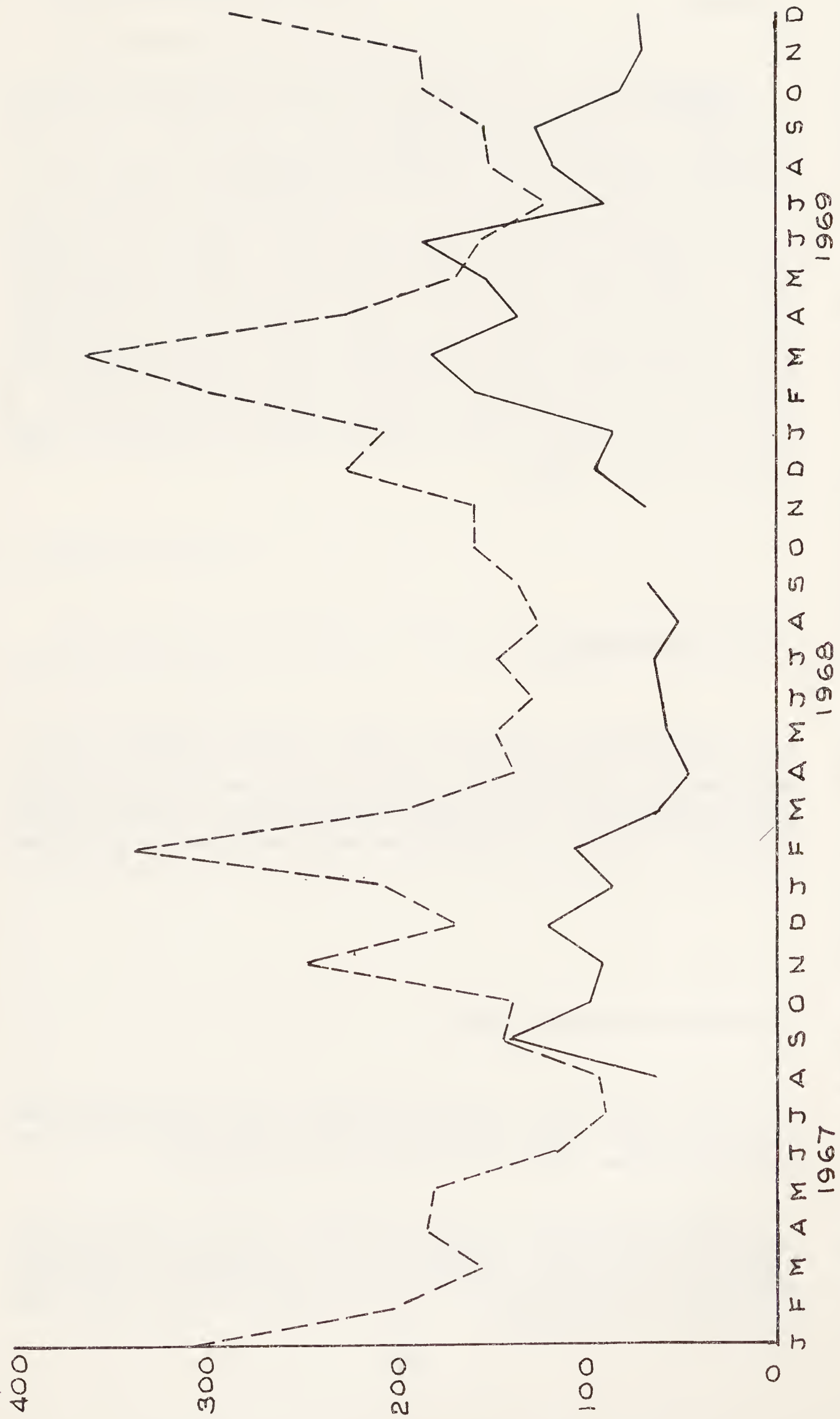
MEASUREMENT OF SUSPENDED SMOKE PARTICLES



— PUBLIC LIBRARY (HIGH DENSITY HOUSING) — ROCK SAVAGE, GRANGE & WESTON (SMOKE CONTROL AREA)

SULPHUR DIOXIDE (MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE)

MEASUREMENT OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE



--- PUBLIC LIBRARY (HIGH DENSITY HOUSING) — ROCKS AVE, GRANGE & WESTON (SMOKE CONTROL AREA)

8 Noise

No complaints were received during the year, despite 14 known occurrences of the use of unmuffled pneumatic concrete breakers in residential areas and one of a pile driver which was to have been operated through the night but for the Department's intervention at 11.30 p.m. Muffling the exhaust of the pneumatic concrete breakers reduces the noise emission to one quarter of the unmuffled level without impairing efficiency, and in all 14 cases mufflers were provided, but not without delay, after informal action or invalid statutory action, since in each case the breakers were used by agents of statutory undertakers who are exempt from proceedings under the Noise Abatement Act. To combat this nuisance effectively, the recommendation of the Committee on the Problem of Noise in 1963 that the exemption of statutory undertakers should be removed should be implemented, and the use of a pneumatic concrete breaker without an efficient muffler should be made an offence.

9 New Development

The inspection of the large number of plans deposited with the Council for Building Regulations approval concerning food premises, shops, offices, factories and housing continues to ensure compliance with the appropriate food hygiene, health, safety and welfare legislation and the provision of suitable and sufficient refuse storage accommodation.

10 Public Swimming Baths

The Urban District Council maintains a Public Swimming Bath. The mains water used is filtered and chlorinated. Daily checks are made for chlorine content by the Baths Superintendent.

Eight bacteriological samples of Bath's water were submitted for analysis and the Analyst reported that "The condition of the bath is satisfactory" with the exception of one sample of outlet water which was reported unsatisfactory.

11 **Vermin and Insect Pests**

The following cases were dealt with during the year:—

	<i>Infested and Disinfested</i>			
	<i>R.D.C. Houses</i>	<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Other Houses</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>
Ants 	0	29	13	0
Beetles 	1	1	2	0
Bed Bugs 	9	5	6	0
Cockroaches 	1	6	9	2
Fleas 	7	3	2	2
Wasp Nests 	0	1	1	0
TOTAL 	18	45	33	4

12 **Rodent Control**

630 inspections of premises resulted in the treatment of 363 infestations of rats and 127 of mice, a further reduction of 6% on the previous year's figures.

136 manholes in the sewerage system were test-baited with Warfarin poison during July, and baits were taken at 23 manholes, mainly in the Byron Street and Egerton Street areas. These infested manholes and those adjacent in every direction received two follow-up treatments with the acute poison sodium fluoracetamide.

SECTION C

1 Housing

Number of inhabited houses in the Urban District, 31st									
December, 1969	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10,822
Density of houses (number of houses per acre)	....	....							1.3
Number of houses (new) erected during 1969:									
(a) by Local Authority	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
(b) by other bodies (including Runcorn Development Corporation)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	471
Number of houses owned by Local Authority:									
Permanent	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,813
Prefabricated	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	52
General Fund	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	15

2 Unfit Houses Clearance Programme—Housing Act, 1957

Seventy-three houses were demolished and two closed during the year.

Orders were made during the year in respect of 44 unfit houses. Since the slum clearance programme was resumed after the war 829 houses (including 28 pre-fabs) have been dealt with as unfit houses.

Progress on the Council's 1966/70 five year clearance programme was still slow and at the end of the year over 300 houses still remained to be dealt with in this programme.

A 20% housing survey was carried out during the year to ascertain the number of the older houses in the town which were not suitable for improvement and which would need to be cleared in future clearance programmes. It is estimated that there are approximately 500 houses in this category; in addition to the 300 houses in the 1966/70 programme.

3 **Housing Waiting List**

 In December, 1969 the number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses was 612.

The housing needs of the applicants were:

Old Age Pensioners	....	....	....	....	....	....	163
One Bedroom	....	....	....	....	....	....	54
Two Bedroom	....	....	....	....	....	....	238
Three Bedroom	....	....	....	....	....	....	137
Four Bedroom....	....	....	....	....	....	....	19
Five Bedroom	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
							<hr/> 612 <hr/>

 Of the 612 applicants 183 were without separate accommodation (lodgers) and 429 had separate accommodation (tenants, owner/occupiers).

4 **Improvement of Houses**

 During the year 14 Standard Grants and 1 Discretionary Grant have been made to owners for the provisions of amenities to structurally sound houses. The rate of improvement of older fit houses by the provision of the five amenities i.e. bath, indoor water-closet, wash-hand basin, hot water supply and sink is still very slow.

 As a result of a sample survey of the older types of house in the town and from information available from previous surveys and other sources it is estimated that there are approx. 630 structurally sound houses which are equipped with the full amenities and approx. 1250 houses which are lacking one or more of the basic amenities but which could be brought up to full standard. Some of these houses may be affected by proposals in the Urban Renewal plan for the older part of the Town and it is therefore important that an early decision on plans for Urban Renewal should be made so that house owners can proceed with improvements.

 The increased grants available under the Housing Act, 1969 for improvements to houses together with incentives to owners to obtain higher rents for improved houses which until the passing of the Housing Act, 1969 were controlled tenancies, should see an increase in the rate of improvements to houses.

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

1 (a) Milk Supply

There are six dairy farms in the area of the Urban District which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

One dairy in the area is licensed for the Pasteurisation of milk by the High Temperature Short-Time System.

(b) Milk Sampling

The following table indicates the Reports of the Analyst of samples taken by the County Council in the Urban District during the year 1969.

Class of Milk	No. of Samples	Appropriate Test	No. of Samples	
			Passed	Failed
Sterilised	3	Turbidity	3	—
Pasteurised	78	Phosphatase	17	—
		Methylene Blue	78	—
Untreated	3	Methylene Blue	2	1

(c) Raw Milk Supplies—*Brucella Abortus*

No dairy herds in the district are licensed to sell raw milk to the public.

No samples were obtained and submitted for *Brucella* examination from 'raw milk herds' in the area.

2 The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 and 1965

All dealers' licences under the above Regulations are issued by the Cheshire County Council, The Food and Drugs Authority for the area.

Sixty-one dealers' (pre-packed) milk licences were issued during the year.

3 Ice Cream Samples

Type of Sample	No. of Samples	GRADES			
		1	2	3	4
Ice Cream	18	11	4	2	1
Ice Cream Mix	4	2	2	0	0
Ice Lollies	2				
			Satisfactory		

Two of the unsatisfactory samples in Grades 3 and 4 were manufactured outside the district and were referred to the appropriate Authority concerned. There are 75 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream and 1 for the manufacture of ice-cream.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

1 (a) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, Sections 16 and 19

Type of Premises	No. in area	Section 16 No. fitted with wash- hand basins	Section 19 No. fitted with sinks
Grocery	66	66	66
Greengrocery	13	13	13
Butchers	22	22	22
Fried Fish	12	12	12
Catering Establishments	25	25	25
Licensed Premises	41	41	41
Bakers and Confectioners	12	12	12
Sugar Confectioners	17	17	17
Food Factories	1	1	1

(b) Inspection of Food Premises

236 visits and inspections have been made to food premises and food vehicles and 20 notices under the Food Hygiene Regulations served in respect of re-decoration of premises, provision of hand-washing facilities, renewal of worn equipment, structural repairs, protection of open food and provision of First Aid Materials.

(c) Deep Frozen Chickens

Because of the risks of poultry in common with other animals carrying food poisonous organisms, special attention has been given to the methods of thawing, cooking and handling of deep frozen chickens in cafes and restaurants. Emphasis has been placed on adequate thawing of the chickens before cooking, thorough cooking and satisfactory conditions of storage while cooling before use. In addition, checks have been made on the adequacy of cooking and storage before sale of deep frozen chickens in a shop operating a Rotisserie. Temperature checks have been made on the chickens whilst cooking and stored before sale.

The weakness of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, governing the control of temperatures of certain meat and meat products in order to prevent the growth of organisms is well illustrated by the results of investigations carried out in these food premises where the Regulations as to temperature control do not apply where food is exposed for sale. Conditions still exist where foods which support bacterial growth such as cooked meats etc. are exposed for sale in windows of shops in the summer months. Such foods should be displayed under refrigerated conditions. The law needs urgent amendment to require this.

New York Dressed Birds

Shops selling New York Dressed Birds (i.e. without evisceration) have been advised to have all birds eviscerated before they take delivery and their attention has been drawn to the dangers of contamination of open food by utensils, clothing etc. where certain open foods are also sold.

(d) Unsound Food—Surrendered or Condemned

	Cwts.	Lbs.
Cooked meat and meat products	....	7
Canned Meats	3	36
Other Canned Foods	11	86
Fruit and Vegetables (fresh)	....	3
Other foods—1,759 packets of frozen food		
	15	20

(e) Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry premises within the district.

2 Adulteration of Food

List of Samples obtained in the RUNCORN URBAN DISTRICT during the Year Ended 31st December, 1969

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspector took 134 samples of varied articles of food in the Runcorn Urban District during the year. The following is a list of samples not up to standard and particulars of food complaints from private purchasers.

Particulars of Samples not up to Standard, 1969

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Shandy	Contained 300 parts/million of a mixture of bacteria and moist miscellaneous organic debris	Bottlers prosecuted £5 Fine. £4 14s. Costs.
2.	Hot Dog Relish	Containing 1000 parts/million of parahydroxybenzoic acid, calculated as the methyl ester. Maximum allows — 250 parts/million.	Seller cautioned.

Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers

<i>No.</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1.	Housewife	Loaf of bread contaminated with mould.	Bakers cautioned.
2.	Housewife	Black matter in the potatoes of a meat and potatoe pie.	Bakers cautioned.
3.	Housewife	Infant food containing a fly.	Manufacturers Prosecuted. Fine £15.
4.	Housewife	Shandy containing 340 P/M of a mixture of bacteria and moist miscellaneous organic debris.	Bottlers prosecuted. Fine £5. Costs £4 14s. See No. 1 on Samples List).
5.	Contract	Maggot alleged to be found in sausage sandwich. Later found to be egg white.	No action.
6.	Halton Lodge Infants School Grangeway, Runcorn.	Foreign body found in $\frac{1}{3}$ pint bottle of milk.	No action. insufficient evidence.

SECTION E

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

1 General

15 new premises were registered during the year, bringing the total of the number of premises registered to 303.

During the year 40 premises received General Inspections and 74 visits were made to registered premises and occupiers were notified of a total of 41 contraventions.

The following table gives an analysis of the nature and number of contraventions of the Act discovered on inspection:—

Temperature	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Ventilation	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Lighting	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Washing Facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Clothing accommodation	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Sitting Facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Eating Facilities	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Fencing exposed parts of machinery	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
First Aid	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
Other matters	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
Total....	....	....	....	....	....	....	41

The contraventions most frequently found related to the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences, floors, passages and stairs, first aid provision and working facilities.

2 Accidents

During the year 8 accidents were reported as occurring in registered premises.

It is satisfactory to report that no accidents were reported due to machinery which is a particular hazard in food shops where food-slicing machines are in use.

It is difficult to assess what proportion of accidents that occur on registered premises are in fact notified to the registering authority.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	90	4	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	37	6	3	—
TOTAL	133	10	3	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).

<i>Particulars</i> (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp'ture (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffect. drainage floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	4	4	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	2	2	2	—	—
TOTAL	7	7	2	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i> (1)	<i>Section 133</i>			<i>Section 134</i>		
	<i>No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices Served</i> (6)	<i>Prose- cutions</i> (7)
Curtains and furniture hanging	2	—	—	—	—	—

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1969

March, 1970

Divisional Medical Office,
28 Halton Road,
RUNCORN.

Telephone Number: RUNCORN 2871 6th March, 1970

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the work of the Divisional Health Department during 1969.

Unfortunately it was not possible to fill the vacancy for a Senior Assistant Medical Officer during the year, but it is pleasing to note that a full time Assistant Medical Officer was appointed to fill the vacancy at the end of the year.

It has been possible to greatly increase the number of booster immunisations carried out at schools and I am confident that this programme will be brought fully up to date during the first half of 1970.

Following the appointment of a full time Occupational Therapist to the Division there has been a steady expansion of the services for the physically handicapped.

The pattern of future medical practice in Runcorn is being formed at the temporary Health Centre which was opened early in the year. Here a very successful team of General Practitioners and Nursing Staff has developed and it is particularly pleasing to note the successful sessions which are being held by the Mental Welfare and Childrens Officers at the Centre. I hope that this pattern of close co-operation between the health and social services in the same premises will continue, whatever changes are made in the administrative structure of the services.

The success of the Runcorn & District branch of the National Association for Mentally Handicapped Children, the formation of which the Divisional Health Committee sponsored, has been most gratifying.

During the coming year serious consideration should be given to the formation of a Council of Social Service in Runcorn. I am sure this would contribute to the integration of the incoming residents with those already in the town, help to co-ordinate the social services in the town, identify new needs, and provide a structure to enable these needs to be met.

In closing this foreword I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for your friendship, advice and support during my period of office in the Runcorn Division, and to all the staff for their loyal support.

I am,

Yours obediently,

F. SEYMOUR

Divisional Medical Officer

INDEX

	<i>Page</i>
Cervical Smears	39
Chiropody Service	44
Clinic Attendances	37
Clinic Centres	35
Convalescent Treatment	43
Care and After-Care (equipment issues)	43
Day Nursery	38
Divisional Health Committee Members	32
Family Planning	44
Home Help Service	43
Infectious Diseases	39
Mental Health Service	45
Nurses and Midwives, addresses and districts	33
Physically Handicapped: Services for	
Car Badges	43
Adaptations to Property....	42
Staff, Divisional Office, Day Nursery	33
Statutory and Voluntary Services—list	46
Vaccination and Immunisation	40
Welfare Foods, distribution	38

RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

List of Members — 1969/70

Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. D. M. SMITH

Deputy Chairman:

Councillor A. PARR

Representing the County Council:

County Alderman Sir GEORGE ASTBURY, West Wind, Strawberry Roundabout, Backford, nr. Chester.

County Councillor A. RICHARDSON, Bradshaw Hall Farm, Cheadle, Cheshire.

County Alderman H. MANN, 25 Park Road, Runcorn.

County Alderman A. E. MOORS, Thornlea, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford, Chester.

County Councillor Miss M. J. Preece, M.B.E., 202 Halton Road, Runcorn.

County Councillor R. F. PAYTON, Park House, 177 London Road, Appleton, Warrington.

County Councillor G. J. FORD, Manley Hall Farm, Manley, Warrington.

Representatives of Runcorn Rural District Council:

Councillor Mrs. M. BATE, Levens, York Drive, Grappenhall, Warrington.

Councillor F. COOPER, Sunny Hurst, Kingsley, Warrington.

Councillor W. EVANS, Oaklands, Primrose Lane, Alvanley, Warrington.

Councillor W. FOWLES, Dairy Farm, Newton Lane, Preston Brook, Warrington.

Councillor Mrs. J. C. JENKINS, 58 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

Councillor P. MOUNFIELD, 342 London Road, Appleton, Warrington.

Councillor Lt. Comdr. G. K. RYLANDS, Uplands, Hobb Lane, Moore, Warrington.

Councillor Mrs. D. M. SMITH, Thornhill, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Warrington.

Councillor S. WILLIAMS, Netherton Farm, Netherton, Frodsham, Warrington.

Representatives of Runcorn Urban District Council:

Councillor C. DAVIES, 1 Mersey View, Weston Point, Runcorn.

Councillor W. DAVIES, 49B Bridge Street, Runcorn.

Councillor W. T. A. FOSTER, 5 Six Acre Lane, Moore, Warrington.

Councillor A. T. JAMESON, 24 Riley Drive, Runcorn.

Councillor A. PARR, 30 Albert Street, Runcorn.

Councillor Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK, 44 Moughland Lane, Runcorn.

Councillor S. WILLIAMS, 83 Boston Avenue, Runcorn.

Co-opted Members:

Dr. E. R. CARTER, 86 Moughland Lane, Runcorn (Local Medical Committee).
Miss T. E. DUDLEY, 1 Weston Road, Runcorn (Nursing Aid Charities).
Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Thornhill, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Warrington
(Hospital Management Committee).
Mr. A. WOOD, 3 Kenilworth Avenue, Runcorn (Education).
Mr. J. HUNT, Mount Pleasant, Top Lane, Kingsley.
Mrs. E. A. ROYLE, 8 Weston Crescent, Runcorn.
Mrs. E. A. M. TOMLINSON, Edeyrn, 73 Victoria Road, Runcorn.
Mrs. A. RAWLINSON, 17 Queens Close, Runcorn (Old People's Welfare
Committee).

Clerk to the Divisional Committee:

Mr. T. J. LEWIS, Solicitor, Town Hall, RUNCORN

STAFF OF THE DIVISIONAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Divisional Medical Officer: Dr. F. Seymour, M.B., ChB., D.P.H.
Assistant County Medical Officers: Dr. J. B. Dowler, M.B., ChB. (part-time).;
Dr. B. C. Thompson, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (part-time); Dr. K. G.
Prashara, W.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Divisional Administrative Assistant: Mr. W. R. Jones.
Area Mental Welfare Officer: Mr. H. Holden.
Area Nursing Officer: Miss K. Geal.
Matron, Day Nursery: Mrs. M. Jones, S.R.N.
Home Help Organisers: Mrs. D. M. Shepherd.; Mrs. M. D. Fisher (part-time).
Occupational Therapist: Miss S. V. Rigg.

Divisional Medical Office: Tel. No. Runcorn 2871/2 and 2449
Day Nursery, Okell Street, Runcorn: Tel. No. Runcorn 2461
Adult Training Centre, David Street, Northwich: Tel. No. Northwich 75100
Junior Training Centre, David Street, Northwich: Tel. No. Northwich 74398
Adult Training Centre, Coronation Road, Ellesmere Port: Tel. No. Ellesmere
Port 1512

DISTRICT NURSE/MIDWIVES

Daresbury	Mr. J. M. Cunningham, Delph Cottage, Daresbury, Warrington.	Moore 266
Frodsham	Mrs. A. V. Burke, 10 Kingsway, Frod- sham, Warrington.	Frodsham 2109
	Miss G. H. Langrell, 19 Clifton Cres- cent, Frodsham.	Frodsham 2235
	Mrs. C. L. Ormsby, 10 Fountain Lane, Frodsham.	Frodsham 2027

Grappenhall	*Mrs. M. Rhodes, 27 St. Wilfred's Drive, Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 64176
Gt. Budworth	Mrs. E. Burgess, Dunkerry, Gibb Hill, Antrobus, Northwich.	Comberbach 400
Halton	Mrs. F. R. Beesley, 47 Main Street, Halton, Runcorn.	Runcorn 2597
Helsby	Mrs. N. E. Stewart, Thorns, Albanley Road, Helsby, Warrington.	Helsby 2143
Norley	Mrs. I. E. Walker, Crabmill Lane, Norley, Warrington.	Kingsley 265
Runcorn	*Mrs. A. Knight, 33 St. Mary's Road, Halton, Runcorn.	Runcorn 5806
	*Mrs. A. A. Marsh, 27 Perrin Avenue, Weston Point, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3730
	*Mrs. E. L. Hartwell, 28 Alexandra Grove, Runcorn.	Runcorn 4628
	*Mr. D. Hill, 8 Cynthia Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3137
	*Mrs. H. Stephens, 49 Langdale Way, Frodsham, Warrington.	Frodsham 3681
Stockton Heath	*Miss W. Maher, 44 Whitfield Avenue, Bruche, Warrington.	Warrington 31701
	*Miss V. E. O'Donnell, 104 Fairfield Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 64562
	*Mrs. O. Holbrook, 86 Grappenhall Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 62996
Stretton	*Mrs. K. Newstead, 3 Beverley Avenue, Appleton, Warrington.	Warrington 64785

RELIEF NURSES

Frodsham	Mrs. B. Cartwright, 22 Fairways, Overton, Frodsham.	Frodsham 3395
Grappenhall & Thelwall	Mrs. M. Craven, 30 Kildonan Road, Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 61725
	Mrs. J. A. Pownall, 8 Newlands Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 63905
Runcorn	Mrs. E. L. Ford, 45 Boston Avenue, Runcorn.	Runcorn 4161
	Mrs. Taylor, 45 Victoria Avenue, Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 61254
	Mrs. Hedgeman, 15 Willow Lane, Appleton Park, Appleton, Warrington.	

COUNTY MIDWIVES

Grappenhall	Mrs. P. M. Skovgaard, The Brambles, Moss Lane, Moore, Warrington.	Moore 383
	Mrs. H. Grace, 41 Springfield Avenue, Grappenhall, Warrington.	Warrington 62301
Runcorn	Miss E. M. Grice, 40 Norman Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 3602
	Miss P. Noon, 73 Oxford Road, Runcorn.	Runcorn 2881
	Mrs. P. Farrell, 134 Heath Road South, Weston.	Runcorn 3707
	Mrs. M. A. Faulkner, 6 Leinster Gdns., Runcorn.	Runcorn 5659
Stockton Heath	Mrs. J. M. Arthur, 37 West Avenue, Stockton Heath, Warrington.	Warrington 61674
Stockton Heath/Grappenhall	Mrs. C. Dawber, 2 Cowdell Street, Warrington, (part-time).	

*Indicates District Nurse Only.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES AND CLINICS

Ministry Foods are sold at each of the Child Welfare Clinic Sessions listed below, and at the following Centres:

Post Office, Appleton
 Post Office, Manley
 Post Office, Norley
 Post Office, Sutton Weaver

Mrs. Dutton's Shop, Russell Road,
 Weston Point
 Post Office, Weston

APPLETON C.W.C., Parish Hall, Dudlow Green Road, Appleton.

Health Visitor: Mrs. M. G. McManamin.

Child Welfare Clinic — 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, p.m.

Immunisation Clinic — 1st Wednesday, p.m.

FRODSHAM C.W.C., The Rock, Frodsham.

Health Visitors: Miss J. Harper, Miss J. M. Massey, Mrs. V. E. Fletcher
 Tel. Frodsham 2388

Dentist: Miss D. Coates. Tel. Frodsham 2388.

Dental Clinic	—	
Child Welfare Clinic	—	2nd and 4th Tuesdays, p.m.
Eye Clinic	—	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Fridays, a.m.
Young Children's Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Wednesdays, a.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Thursdays, a.m.
Preparation Class	—	Mondays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	4th Fridays, a.m.
Speech Therapy	—	Fridays, p.m. (by appointment).
Family Advice Centre	—	Wednesdays, p.m. (Children's Dept.).

GRAPPENHALL C.W.C., Springfield Avenue, Grappenhall.

Health Visitor: Miss M. Lea. Tel. Warrington 61488

Dentist: Mr. T. P. Dykes. Tel. Warrington 61489

Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Tuesdays, p.m.
Cervical Cytology Clinic	—	1st Wednesday, a.m. (by arrangements)
Immunisation Clinic	—	1st Fridays, p.m.
Child Welfare Clinic	—	Thursdays, p.m.
Preparation Class	—	Wednesdays, p.m.
Young Children's Clinic	—	4th Fridays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	2nd Fridays, a.m.
Eye Clinic	—	3rd Wednesdays, a.m.
Dental Clinic	—	
Child Guidance	—	Wednesdays, a.m.

HELSBY Clinic, Methodist Church Hall, Helsby.

Health Visitor: Mrs. V. E. Fletcher.

Child Welfare Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Tuesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	4th Fridays, p.m.

KINGSLEY Clinic, Hurst Methodist Church Hall, Kingsley.

Health Visitor: Miss J. M. Massey.

Child Welfare Clinic	—	2nd Wednesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	2nd Wednesdays, p.m.

RUNCORN C.W.C., 34 Halton Road, Runcorn.

Health Visitors: Miss E. O'Connor, Miss C. V. Kilcullen, Miss A. Davies
Tel. Runcorn 2871/2.

Young Children's Clinic	—	2nd Friday, a.m.
Child Welfare Clinic	—	Wednesdays, a.m. and p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Thursdays, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	Tuesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	2nd Fridays, p.m.
Eye Clinic	—	1st Friday, p.m.

RUNCORN C.W.C., Thorn Road, Grange N.U., Runcorn.

Health Visitor: Mrs. D. Govan. Tel. Runcorn 4495.

Dentist: Miss D. Coates. Tel. Runcorn 4496.

Dental Clinic	—	
Screening Clinic	—	2nd Mondays, p.m.
Child Welfare Clinic	—	Thursdays, p.m.
Young Children's Clinic	—	3rd Fridays, a.m.
Preparation Class	—	Fridays, p.m.
Eye Clinic	—	1st Friday, a.m.
Cervical Cytology Clinic	—	4th Tuesdays, p.m. (by arrangement).
Midwives Ante-Natal Clinic	—	Wednesdays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	2nd Thursdays, p.m.

RUNCORN HEALTH CENTRE, Castlefields, Halton Brow, Runcorn.

Health Visitor: Miss M. R. Sandford. Tel. Runcorn 2949.

Preparation Class	—	Wednesday, p.m.
Child Health Clinic	—	Thursday, p.m.
Family Advice Centre	—	Mondays, p.m. (Children's Dept.).
Mental Health Service	—	Mondays, p.m.

STOCKTON HEATH C.W.C., 65 Whitefield Road, Stockton Heath.

Health Visitor: Mrs. M. G. McManamin. Tel. Warrington 62025.

Dentist: Miss P. Gass. Tel. Warrington 62025.

Dental Clinic	—	
Child Welfare Clinic	—	Mondays, p.m.
Young Children's Clinic	—	1st Friday, a.m.
Screening Clinic	—	as required.
Eye Clinic	—	4th Tuesdays, p.m.
Preparation Class	—	Fridays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	3rd Fridays, a.m.
Handicapped Person's Club	—	1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, p.m.

WESTON POINT CLINIC, Russell Road Hall, Weston Point.

Health Visitor: Miss A. Davies.

Child Welfare Clinic	—	1st and 3rd Mondays, p.m.
Immunisation Clinic	—	1st Monday, p.m.

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS ATTENDANCES

As described in detail in last years report increasing emphasis is being laid on the less frequent but more detailed and regular examination of babies and young children at the child health clinics. The implementation of this policy has led, as expected, to a decrease in the number of attendances of babies. On the other hand it had been hoped to see a substantial increase in the number seen in the 1—5 year age groups. This was not achieved because of the shortage of medical staff.

The tables below give details of the attendances at the various Child Health Clinics held in the Division:

	NEW CASES		TOTAL ATTENDANCES					
	0—1 year		0—1 year		1—2 years		2—5 years	
	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969
Appleton	—	17	—	53	—	17	—	5
Frodsham	118	119	591	744	71	102	70	123
Grappenhall	139	135	1,594	1,380	111	188	64	130
Helsby	102	80	808	724	199	159	35	30
Kingsley	25	26	139	167	26	45	6	10
Runcorn	291	214	2,134	1,494	252	233	201	153
Runcorn-Grange N.U.	152	127	923	847	194	160	254	272
Runcorn-Castlefields	—	90	—	358	—	86	—	90
Stockton Heath	183	167	1,661	1,540	103	142	78	25
Weston Point	54	36	301	208	53	45	6	24
TOTALS:	1,064	1,011	8,151	7,515	1,009	1,177	714	862

WELFARE FOODS

The drop in the sale of National Dried Milk continued but it is pleasing to note that the sales of vitamin supplements remain remarkably constant.

Proprietary foods were not sold during 1969.

We are grateful to all the members of the W.R.V.S. and other voluntary workers who assist in the running of the clinics and food sales.

<i>Year</i>	<i>National Dried Milk (packets)</i>	<i>Orange Juice (bottles)</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil (bottles)</i>	<i>A. & D. Tablets (packets)</i>
1969	2,234	13,879	690	1,511
1968	4,611	13,470	639	1,334
1967	5,597	13,659	820	1,480
1966	8,831	14,247	832	1,456

DAY NURSERY, OKELL STREET, RUNCORN

<i>Average Daily Attendance</i>	<i>Average No. Attending</i>		<i>Total Attendances</i>	
	<i>0—2 years</i>	<i>2—5 years</i>	<i>0—2 years</i>	<i>2—5 years</i>
35	10	25	2,267	6,215

The Nursery is open from 7.45 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The student nursery nurse was successful in passing her N.N.E.B. examination and has joined the staff of the Nursery.

The Nursery has been working at full capacity during the year, and pressure is such that now it is only possible to admit children in priority groups. The reasons for priority in the children attending at the end of the year were as follows:—

Unmarried mothers	....	....	....	....	....	16
Divorced mothers	....	....	....	....	....	6
Illness of mothers	....	....	....	....	....	4
Teachers	....	....	....	....	....	3
Nurses	....	....	....	....	....	1
Other key workers	....	....	....	....	....	2
Student Teachers	....	....	....	....	....	2
Low Income	....	....	....	....	....	2
Physically Handicapped	....	....	....	....	....	2
Mentally Handicapped	....	....	....	....	....	4

Total number on register at 31.12.69 **42** of whom 32 are paying reduced fees. There are 54 names on the non-priority waiting list.

CERVICAL SMEAR CLINICS

There was a welcome increase in the number of attendances at the cervical smear clinics. The local newspapers published helpful articles and the County Council ran a campaign amongst its own employees to encourage them to have a smear taken. In addition all Nursing Staff and District Council Officers were supplied with application forms and information leaflets for distribution.

	<i>Grappenhall Clinic</i>		<i>Grange Clinic, Runcorn</i>	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
No. of Sessions held:	7	13	10	25
No. of new patients who attended	98	200	185	375
No. of patients for re-test	—	20	—	—
Result of examination:—				
(a) Nothing Abnormal	98	199	184	370
(b) For further investigation	—	1	1	5
(c) No. in (b) found positive	—	—	1	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Occasional cases of infective hepatitis occurred throughout the area during the year. There was not however any localised epidemic.

The following tables give details of the various infectious diseases notified in each council area within the division during 1968 and 1969.

	1968		1969	
	RUNCORN URBAN	RUNCORN RURAL	RUNCORN URBAN	RUNCORN RURAL
Dysentery	—	1	1	—
Measles	374	118	36	14
Pneumonia, Influenzal	—	7	—	—
Scarlet Fever	51	15	20	13
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	3	6	6
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	5	8	4	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—
Encaphalitis	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Influenzal and acute Lobar	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	—	—	1	—
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	11	17

Tuberculosis

Details are given below of the numbers of persons on the Tuberculosis Register.

	RUNCORN URBAN		RUNCORN RURAL	
	<i>R.</i>	<i>N.R.</i>	<i>R.</i>	<i>N.R.</i>
No. on Register at end of 1968.....	96	5	79	26
New Cases notified (including Transfers)	6	1	7	—
Deaths:	—	—	2	—
Recovered:	4	—	—	—
Other Removals from Register (left district etc.)	—	—	—	—
No. on Register at end of 1969.....	98	6	84	26

R—Respiratory N.R.—Non-Respiratory

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Smallpox Vaccination

	<i>Primary</i>		<i>Booster</i>	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	—	2	—	—
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough and Tetanus	1,350	525	1,048	463
Diphtheria/Tetanus	9	208	515	1,455
Tetanus	41	40	—	45
Poliomyelitis—Sabin Vaccine	1,342	764	849	1,822
Salk Vaccine	—	—	—	—
Smallpox—				
Under 1 year	12	10	—	—
1—5 years	954	608	—	2
School Children	68	36	19	32
TOTAL	3,776	2,193	2,431	3,819
MEASLES:	1,313	591	—	—

Total No. of Protective Procedures carried out for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Polio and Smallpox

	<i>Total by G.P.'s</i>	<i>Total by Local Health Authority</i>	<i>Total</i>
1968	3,697	2,510	6,207
1969	2,772	3,240	6,012

Primary Immunisation and Vaccination

Smallpox

Following the increase in the number of smallpox vaccinations reported in 1968 it is disappointing to note the quite considerable drop in numbers in 1969, this is in spite of the benefits of the computer organised scheme.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Polio

The figures for 1969 cannot be compared with those of 1968 due to the change made in the schedule of vaccination and immunisation procedures at the end of 1968, primary protection procedures now being completed at 14 months. We can however confidently expect the figures to return to normal next year.

Measles

There was a substantial drop in the number of children vaccinated against this disease due to a shortage of vaccine following the withdrawal of vaccine produced by one manufacturer. I hope that this will not have a serious effect on the acceptance of measles vaccination by parents, as soon as production of the other type of vaccine is increased. This is a perfectly satisfactory vaccine and will give good protection against a disease which whilst very common, can leave very serious after effects in a small proportion of the children who have suffered from it.

Booster Protection

It is pleasing to note the high level of immunisations achieved during the year. The increase is mainly a result of the additional clerical time that it has been possible to allocate to the preliminary administrative work. I would however like to express my appreciation to the general practitioners, sessional doctors and headteachers who have so readily co-operated in the implementation of this scheme.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Children Eligible</i>	<i>Percentage of Parents consenting</i>	<i>Percentage Abs. for Tests</i>	<i>Percentage Tuberculin Positive</i>	<i>Percentage Tuberculin Neg. & Vacc.</i>
1964	798	83	15	17	83
1965	879	88	12	10	90
1966	845	89	6	12	88
1967	656	74	4	13	87
1968	999	92	11	9	91
1969	988	92	10	9	87

SERVICES FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

The vacancy for an occupational therapist was filled and considerable work has been carried out in fully assessing the needs of the physically handicapped. During the year 272 patients were visited at home, and 10 required adaptations to property.

The Runcorn Handicapped Persons Club was started in September, and is held weekly on Friday afternoons at the Halton Tenants Centre. Various successful outings were arranged during the year for the Frodsham, Stockton Heath and Runcorn clubs.

The work of the W.R.V.S. at the clubs is greatly appreciated.

Adaptations to Property

The undermentioned adaptations to property have been carried out during 1969:

<i>Adaptations</i>	<i>Approx. Cost</i>		
	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
(1) Grip Rail to bath and Ramp to door	32	0	0
(2) Grip Rail to bath and Handrails at front door	14	0	0
(3) Ramp to rear door	9	15	0
(4) Ramps from hall to bedroom and front door	11	0	0
(5) Ramp with handrails	24	0	0
(6) Ramps to front door and rear wall	30	0	0
(7) Foot operated W.C. and bath grip	14	0	0
(8) Handrails at front and rear of flats	12	0	0
(9) Timber ramp, handrails and fencing alteration	42	10	0
(10) Bales catches to doors and timber handrails	15	0	0

Car Badges for the Disabled Drivers

Persons who are seriously handicapped and can only walk a very limited distance are eligible to receive, on application, two stick-on car badges identifying them as physically handicapped. This scheme was introduced by the Ministry of Health in an effort to assist such drivers to receive extra consideration when parking, but it must be remembered that possession of the badges does not confirm any legal rights whatsoever.

Three applications were received during the year.

Care and After-Care

Nursing equipment and aids for the sick and handicapped are available on loan, free of charge, from the Divisional Medical Office, providing a Doctor or some other suitably qualified person states that the items are required.

A total of 361 items were loaned to 281 patients during the year.

Convalescent Treatment

Ten patients were sent for convalescent treatment during 1969.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Number of Home Helps employed at end of year:—

(a) Whole-time—Nil; (b) Part-time—89; (c) Equivalent whole-time of (b)—31.

Classification of cases and hours worked:—

	1968		1969	
	Cases	Hours worked	Cases	Hours worked
Aged and Infirm	402	52,299	454	56,523
Others	76	14,281	96	6,574
Confinements	66	1,980	44	815

	1968	1969
Contributions from cases—	£4,393	£3,934

During 1969 there was an overall increase in the number of cases of 9% and a decrease in hours of 6½% approximately compared with 1968. There was a reduction in the number of confinement cases, but more cases of aged and infirm people who were provided with 4,224 hours more help than in the previous year.

Considerable difficulties have been experienced in recruiting home helps in the rural area, and the organisers have consequently had to spend a lot of time attempting to recruit new staff and on the constant re-arrangement of duties. In spite of this the number of elderly persons receiving help increased. Possibly as a result of the increase charge for the service to “full cost” cases, there was a decrease in the number of hours of help supplied.

In an effort to decrease the proportion of the service costs devoted to National Insurance, helps were encouraged wherever possible to work 21 hours or more per week or alternatively 14 hours or less.

The “Good Neighbour” Scheme has been found to be of value in selected cases, and there have been 2 “Good Neighbours” working during the year.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

There was little significant change in the demand for the service, details of which are given below:—

	Over 65				Physically Handicapped			
	No. of Patients		No. of Treatments		No. of Patients		No. of Treatments	
	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969	1968	1969
Chiropodist's								
Surgery	447	469	2,477	2,538	—	—	—	—
Home of Patients	386	368	1,942	1,864	7	6	68	58

	1968	1969
No. of cases in which County Council paid full fees	708	704
No. of cases in which County Council paid half fees	132	139

FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

The Family Planning clinics at Runcorn and Grappenhall are being greatly used, and there is a steady number of referrals on both Medical and Social grounds under the County Council Scheme. The numbers referred during the year were 6 to Runcorn and 4 to Grap-penhall.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

During the year there was an improvement in the staffing position of the Mental Health Service. In July, a member of staff returned to duty after obtaining his Certificate in Social Work, whilst in September another member went away on a two-year full-time training course at the Millbank College of Commerce, Liverpool. November saw the appointment of two trainee Mental Welfare Officers.

Statutory duties are laid on the Mental Welfare Officer under the Mental Health Act, 1959, and in order to comply with these duties, a 24-hour service, operated by a rota system for out-of-office hours, week-ends, Bank Holidays, etc. is provided. Staff from the No. 3 Runcorn and Lymm Area and No. 4 Mid-Cheshire Area team up for this essential service.

For the fifth year in succession there has been a slight reduction in the number of mentally ill patients admitted to hospital by this Service, and this could possibly be accounted for by the liaison which exists between hospital staff, Consultant Psychiatrists, General Practitioners, and other services and organisations, together with the provision of Out-Patient Clinics and After-Care Service.

With the opening of the Castlefields Health Centre, Runcorn, it was felt that this service should make use of the facilities available, and on the 6th October, a weekly Monday afternoon session, whereby a Mental Welfare Officer attends the Health Centre for interviews and appointments, was put into operation. This is already resulting in greater co-operation between Mental Welfare Officers, General Practitioners and members of the Nursing Services.

The majority of children in the Division attend the Northwich Junior Training Centre and a small number under 5 years of age attend the Rowans, Altrincham—a Nursery Centre run by the National Association for Mentally Handicapped Children. As a result of the continuing but temporary shortage of accommodation at the Northwich Adult Training Centre, adult trainees from Runcorn, Frodsham and Helsby areas attend the Ellesmere Port Adult Training Centre.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of trainees attending Training Centre, due to outward transfers, deaths, etc. At the end of the year one child was waiting for admission to the Special Care Unit at Northwich Junior Training Centre.

The weekly Play-Group at Frodsham Clinic Centre and the weekly Social Club at St. Andrew's Hall, Runcorn have continued to fill the real needs felt by parents and their children.

Towards the end of the year a Hostel for severely subnormal children was opened at Crewe and 2 children from the Runcorn area are in residence on a five-day weekly basis.

Attendances at Training Centres (As on 31.12.69)

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Ellesmere Port Adult Training Centre	7	6	13
Northwich Adult Training Centre	3	8	11
Northwich Junior Training Centre	18	8	26
Altrincham Adult Training Centre	1	1	2
Altrincham Junior Training Centre/The Rowans	5	1	6
TOTALS:	34	24	58

Case discussions have continued to be held at regular intervals between the Training Centre Staff, Mental Welfare Officers, and Assistant County Medical Officers, and these discussions have been of great help in assessing social, physical and emotional needs of trainees and their families.

Short Term Care, to allow parents to have a holiday or because of family sickness, was provided in 13 cases.

The Runcorn, Frodsham and District Society for Mentally Handicapped Children was launched at a Public Meeting at the Town Hall, Runcorn, early in the year and has received tremendous support from parents, organisations, and members of the public.

LIST OF STATUTORY AND VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Area Welfare Officer: Miss J. Scott, Weaver Hall, London Road, Northwich.

WELFARE HOMES

	Accommodation	
	Men	Women
The Cottage, Grangeway, Runcorn	4	8
Belvedere, Runcorn	4	10
Area Children's Officer, Children's Department:	Mr. R. J. Whipp, 75 High Street, Runcorn Tel. No. Runcorn 4357/8.	
Area Mental Welfare Officer:	Mr. H. Holden, 36 Halton Road, Runcorn Tel. No. Runcorn 2871/2 2449.	

Chief Public Health Inspectors:

Mr. A. Duckworth,
Runcorn Urban District Council,
Town Hall, Runcorn
Tel. No. Runcorn 2261.

Mr. D. Boothman,
Runcorn Rural District Council,
Castle Park, Frodsham
Tel. No. Frodsham 2186.

Citizen's Advice Bureau, Runcorn

Mrs. E. R. Gaussen,
Organiser and Secretary,
Citizen's Advice Bureau,
Alcock Street, Runcorn
Tel. No. Runcorn 4451.

N.S.P.C.C.:

Inspector A. R. Moores,
12 Moss Road, Winnington,
Tel. No. Northwich 74134.

Moral Welfare:

Miss E. M. Mann,
98 St. George's Road, Winsford
Tel. No. Winsford 2684.

Church House, Church Street,
Runcorn
Tuesdays 5.0 p.m.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS:

Family Planning Association Clinics are held as follows:—

Clinic Centre, Thorn Road,
Runcorn.

Mondays 6.30 to 8.0 p.m.

Clinic Centre, Springfield Avenue,
Grappenhall.

Mondays 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. and
6.15 to 8.30 p.m.

Meals on Wheels Service:

Information regarding this service
should be requested from:—

Runcorn Urban District:

The Centre Organiser,
(Mrs. C. N. Raisbeck).
Home Address:—
57 Langdale Road, Runcorn.
Tel. No. Runcorn 3640.

*Runcorn Rural District,
Frodsham Area:*

The Centre Organiser,
(Mrs. B. Williams).
Home Address:—
"Revenge", Lime Avenue,
Frodsham.
Tel. No. Frodsham 2058.

Stockton Heath Area:

The Centre Organiser,
(Mrs. M. Ashton).
Home Address:—
48 Birchdale Road, Appleton.
Tel. No. Warrington 62687.

